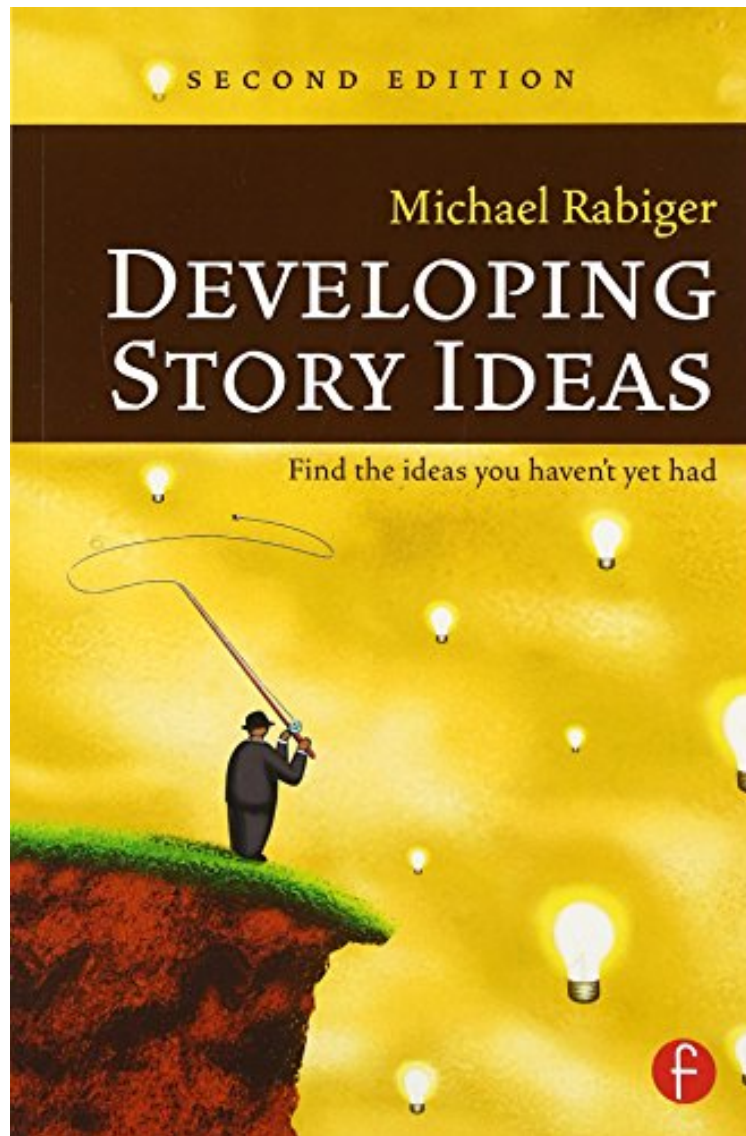


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Developing Story Ideas

Michael Rabiger

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Michael Rabiger : Developing Story Ideas before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Developing Story Ideas:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good for writers only!By MattIf you are dedicated to be a writer, this book might gives you a great support to create stories.I was expecting a more of a creative insight from this book instead of a list of techniques on writing.The first part of the book gives you great idea about how to free you creativeness and overcome a fear of writing the wrong stuff "All accomplished authors seem to agree there is one

prerequisite for become a writer, and that is to keep writing no matter what" and this was the only usable part of this book for me.10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. To be fair I have to say...By Rodrigo CarranzaYou need to know what I'm going to tell you so that you have the right expectations when buying this book.The book is designed more to support a storytelling class. There are group excersies and specific drills to complete after each section. So if you are alone it feels rare to read about class exercises. So, you have to understand this book's main target are teachers and students in a class.The drills actually seem to be quite a promising activity. If I went to a fiction writing course I would like to be given this book.The author deals with the creative process, the artistic identity and how writers actually have to dig deep in their soul to find their stories and their subjects or themes. This part I liked.As for what the title promises "Developing story ideas". I'm not fully convinced with the material. In a certain way the basic theory is there (three act structure, scene cards, theme...) but you should be warned that there is much more that can be said about storytelling and how you actually create a great story. What does this mean? It means that if you want to write stories just to entertain yourself this is a good place to come. Now, if you want to become a professional writer the information in this book might be taken as the beginning of your education. Plenty of books await you. This book gives you the basics about how to develop story IDEAS. Once you have a story idea, then you have to develop the story itself. It wouldn't hurt if you consulted other books that have much more insight of how to build a story itself.As for me, why did I change my mind and came back and posted a better review? Well, to me one of the best ways to decide if a book is good or not is to see if you come back to it to remember some useful insight you know is between its covers. That happened to me. I'm deep in a sotry I'm writing and I remembered this book had something that would help me. I came back. Believe me if a book makes you come back it probably has something valuable and it might be considered a good book.There you go, now it's time for you to decide if it is right for you or not.21 of 21 people found the following review helpful. Finally...By LadfamI have a shelf full of books on scriptwriting, directing, and other general movie making topics. However, the one thing that has held me back on my first short film was the lack of story. Rather - the lack of a GOOD story. I was very happy to stumble across this book. Finally someone has written not about putting your idea on paper, but GETTING the idea in the first place ("priming the pump", as the book says). You not only read the principles, but are encouraged to apply them with the many hands-on exercises presented throughout.I believe this book is definitely a worthwhile read for anyone experiencing writer's block.

The vast majority of screenplay and writing books focus on story development and have little to say about the initial concept that generated the piece. Developing Story Ideas offers writers a spectrum of resources and a structure of writing practice so that anyone can quickly and reliably generate a wide variety of stories in a broad range of forms. It first shows you how to observe situations, acts, and themes-and use these observations as the basis for storytelling. Exercises and projects help you draw an artistic self-profile to summarize what you most need to investigate in your creative work. Micahel Rabiger, a renowned teacher, author, educator, and mentor, proves we all have the inner resources and life experiences to be creative. He guides aspiring writers step by step to come up with quality story ideas in a broad range of forms: a screenplay, short story, documentary, or play.

"Using the tools of the screenwriter's trade... Rabiger reveals how to chart a scene and represent its intensity as a dramatic arc, as well as exploring how to analyse stories for effectiveness, meaning and purpose, which is relevant to film and video creators at all levels." - What Digital Camcorder"Rabiger does a nice job, guiding the reader through the writing process from selecting a genre to creating the plot to developing interesting characters. If you'd like to become a better scriptwriter, this one is well worth the money." - Videomaker Magazine"His program-between-covers for developing ideas into proposals that will sell is more textbook than narrative...The value of Rabiger's book for an individual writer almost surely depends on how that writer's mind operates." - The Writer, May 2006From the PublisherThis book provides exercises and projects to help each person draw an artistic self-profile to summarize what he or she most needs to investigate in their creative work. It teaches narrative structure and critical language, and asserts that giving and taking criticism is an essential part of the creative process. It treats fiction and non-fiction as highly related - for fiction needs its roots in the real world, while documentary needs narrative drive and structure to impose meaning on its reality. All the assignments are illustrated with examples of student work and/or pieces drawn from classic works of literature and film, each followed by meaningful and sensitive commentary from the author. Throughout the book the author has placed boxed text to emphasize information that is critical to the success of a particular writing project or to the creative process generally. In this atmosphere people naturally form the friendships, creative partnerships, and teams that make filmmaking gratifying and productive.From the Back CoverWritingDeveloping Story IdeasSecond EditionMichael Rabiger* Feeling stuck? Learn to quickly and reliably generate creative ideas for stories, scripts, and more .* Four new chapters on basic drama concepts* Includes over 50 exercises and projects to spark unique story ideas* Step-by-step approach suitable for beginners Developing Story Ideas, 2nd Ed. guides aspiring writers to generate quality story ideas in a broad range of forms: a screenplay, short story, documentary, novel or play. This book demystifies the artistic process and shows you how you can develop your own artistic identity. There are hundreds of writing books out there, but very few on how to come up with ideas in the

first place - *Developing Story Ideas, 2nd Ed.* is one of those rare gems. *Developing Story Ideas, 2nd Ed.* imparts the principles of dramatic analysis. Each project assignment is illustrated by examples from young writers, along with in-depth discussions. Dramatic language, principles, and critical method emerge in their working context. Immensely readable, this is a must-have book for anyone wanting to write but might be intimidated by the process. Michael Rabiger has directed or edited over 35 films, founded the Documentary Center at Columbia College, Chicago, and was Chair of its Film/Video Department. Now Professor Emeritus, Rabiger has been presented with the Preservation and Scholarship Award by the International Documentary Association, as well as the Genius Career Achievement Award by the Chicago International Documentary Festival in 2005. He is the author of the enormously successful, *Directing: Film Techniques and Aesthetics* (Focal Press), now in its third edition, and *Directing the Documentary* (Focal Press), now in its fourth edition. Related Focal Press Titles *Directing the Documentary* Michael Rabiger ISBN: 0-240-80608-5, paperback, 627pp Focal Press An Imprint of Elsevier www.focalpress.com ISBN: 0240807367 Price: \$24.95/14.99